

ANNUAL SUMMARY
OF
VITAL STATISTICS
IN THE
WEST KENT COMBINED
SANITARY DISTRICT
IN
1904,
BY
JAMES SCOTT TEW, M.D., D.P.H.

Cambridge :

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1905.



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Annual Report on the Health

OF THE

West Kent Combined Sanitary District

in 1904.

The West Kent Combined Sanitary District includes the Rural Districts of Bromley, Cranbrook, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Tenterden, and Tonbridge, and the Urban Districts of Chislehurst, Fooks Cray, Sevenoaks, Southborough, Tenterden, and Tonbridge.

The Population estimated to the middle of the year 1904, was 140,286, being an increase of 3,189 since the census of 1901.

The Area of the Urban Districts is 18,816 acres (land and water); that of the Rural Districts 253,716; making a total of 272,532 acres.

The number of registered births amounted to 3,219, consisting of 1,719 of males, and 1,500 of females, and giving a **birth-rate** of **22·9** per 1,000 of population, as compared with 24·1 in the previous year.

The lowest birth-rates were 17·8 in the Sevenoaks Urban, and 20·9 in the Fooks Cray Urban Districts; whilst Bromley Rural with 24·7, and Tenterden and Tonbridge Rurals with 24·6 showed the highest birth-rates.

The number of registered deaths amounted to 1,842, including 935 of males, and 907 of females. Of these 147 were those of non-residents, whilst 13 deaths occurred amongst residents outside the District at the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital, the Cottage Hospital, Eltham, Hampstead Hospital, and the Tunbridge Wells General Hospital.

The General Death-rate was **12·1** per 1,000 of population, as compared with 12·2 in the previous year.

The lowest death-rates were in the Fooks Cray Urban (8·8) and the Chislehurst Urban (9·3), whilst the highest rates were in the Tenterden Rural (14·7) and the Tenterden Urban (14·4).

These rates are lower than in the previous year.

The principal **Epidemic Diseases** include small-pox, measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, whooping cough, fever (typhus, enteric fever, and pyrexia of uncertain origin) and diarrhœa. Of the total deaths 92 were caused by one or other of these diseases, viz., 3 by scarlet fever, 18 by diphtheria (including membranous croup), 8 by fevers (6 by enteric and 2 by puerperal fever), 4 by measles, 16 by whooping cough, and 43 by diarrhœa.

Included in the above deaths are two which occurred outside the District though belonging to it, viz., at the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital.

The Death-rate from this class of epidemic disease was consequently 0·6 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 0·8 in 1903.

Tonbridge Rural (0·2), and Southborough Urban, Chislehurst Urban, and Cranbrook Rural (0·3), showed the lowest epidemic death-rates; Tenterden Rural and Bromley Rural (1·1), the highest.

The Infant Mortality, *i.e.*, the number of deaths of infants under one year of age, per 1,000 registered births, was 108 for the whole District, the minimum rate being 71 in the Southborough Urban District, and the maximum rate 141 in the Sevenoaks Urban District.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, has been in force throughout the District since 1890, and has now, by the Infectious Disease (Notification) Extension Act, 1899, been made compulsory in every urban, rural, and port sanitary district throughout the country, and applies to the following diseases:—Small-pox, cholera, diphtheria, membranous croup, erysipelas, the disease known as scarlet fever or scarlatina, and the fevers known by any of the following names: Typhus, typhoid, enteric, relapsing, continued, or puerperal, and also any infectious disease to which the Act has been applied by the Local Authority in the manner provided by the Act.

Chicken-pox was temporarily added to the list in 1902, and not taken off till the early part of the year 1904, by the Cranbrook Rural District, but only one case was notified.

Small-pox fell from 12 cases in 1903 down to one non-fatal case in 1904.

The case occurred in the Tonbridge Urban District, the patient being an adult, and was treated at the Joint Small-pox Hospital.

The **Notifications** received during 1904 numbered 550, as compared with 672 in the previous year. They included 1 of small-pox, 253 of scarlet fever, 171 of diphtheria, 2 of membranous croup, 27 of enteric (or typhoid) fever, 89 of erysipelas, 6 of puerperal fever, and 1 of chicken-pox.

Of these cases 50·5 per cent. were removed to Isolation Hospitals.

Scarlet fever fell from 274 cases in 1902 and 289 in 1903 to 253 in 1904, with 3 deaths.

The greatest number of cases, viz., 91 and one death, occurred in the Maidstone Rural District; the remaining two deaths occurred in the Sevenoaks Rural District.

The scarlet fever death-rate was 0·002 per 1,000 of population, and 69·1 per cent. were treated at Isolation Hospitals.

The following shows the incidence and mortality at the different age periods :—

0—1 year	1—5 years	5—15 years	15—25 years	25—65 years	
2	57	166	19	9	—253 cases
0	1	2	0	0	— 3 deaths.

Diphtheria, including the two cases of membranous croup, fell from 370 cases in 1902 and 197 cases in 1903 down to 173 cases in 1904, 18 of which ended fatally.

The diphtheria death-rate was 0·12 per 1,000 of population, with a case-mortality of 10·4 per cent.

The cases and deaths occurred at the following age periods :—

0—1 year	1—5 years	5—15 years	15—25 years	25—65 years	65 upwards
	45	84	25	16	1—173 cases
	8	6	1	1	1— 18 deaths

Of the Urban Districts the incidence of diphtheria, including membranous croup, was 0·3 per 1,000 of population, with a case-mortality of 13·6 per cent., while that of the Rural Districts was 0·9 per 1,000 of population, with a case-mortality of 9·3 per cent.

Of the notified cases 52·6 per cent. were removed to Isolation Hospitals.

The deaths occurred as follows :—

3	in Bromley Rural
1	„ Cranbrook „
1	„ Maidstone „
2	„ Sevenoaks „
4	„ Tenterden „
1	„ Tonbridge „
3	„ Sevenoaks Urban
2	„ Tenterden „
1	„ Tonbridge „

Total 18 deaths.

Enteric (Typhoid) Fever. Twenty-seven cases occurred as compared with 36 cases in the previous year, among which were 6 deaths.

The Enteric Fever death-rate was 0·04 per 1,000 of population, and the case-mortality 22·2 per cent.

The Tenterden Urban and Rural Districts and the Sevenoaks Urban District were entirely free from the disease throughout the year.

Puerperal Fever. Six cases, with two deaths, occurred, one in each of the Maidstone and Sevenoaks Rural Districts.

Continued Fevers caused no deaths during the year.

Erysipelas fell from 97 cases in 1903 to 89 cases in 1904, causing 4 deaths, one in Maidstone Rural, 1 in Sevenoaks Rural, 1 in Southborough Urban, and 1 in Tonbridge Urban District.

The cases and deaths occurred at the following age periods :—

0—1 year	1—5 years	5—15 years	15—25 years	25—65 years	65 upwards	
2	2	9	8	52	16	89 cases
1	0	0	1	0	2	4 deaths

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Measles. Only four deaths were caused by this disease, giving a measles death-rate of 0·02 per 1,000 of population.

The deaths all occurred in the Tonbridge Urban District.

Whooping Cough caused 16 deaths as compared with 43 in 1903, 9 of which were patients under one year of age, and 7 of patients under fifteen years of age.

The death-rate from whooping cough was 0·1 per 1,000 of population, and the deaths were reported :—

9 in Bromley Rural
1 „ Cranbrook „
1 „ Maidstone „
3 „ Sevenoaks „
1 „ Sevenoaks Urban
1 „ Southboro' „
—
16 deaths

Diarrhœa. Forty-three deaths occurred, which were reported, 10 from Bromley Rural, 2 from Cranbrook Rural, 7 from Maidstone Rural, 5 from Sevenoaks Rural, 2 from Tenterden Rural, 5 from Tonbridge Rural, 2 from Chislehurst Urban, 2 from Sevenoaks Urban, 2 from Southborough Urban, 4 from Tonbridge Urban, and 2 from Fooks Cray Urban.

The diarrhœa death-rate was 0·3 per 1,000 of population.

Influenza fell from 25 deaths in 1903 to 23 deaths in 1904. They were reported : 3 from Bromley Rural, 5 from Cranbrook Rural, 7 from Sevenoaks Rural, 2 from Tenterden Rural, 1 from Tonbridge Rural, 4 from Sevenoaks Urban, and 1 from Tonbridge Urban.

The influenza death-rate was 0·1 per 1,000 of population.

Phthisis, including tuberculosis of meninges, 20 deaths ; tuberculosis of lungs, 116 deaths ; and other forms of tuberculosis, 45 deaths ; making a total of 181 deaths, shows a slight increase as compared with 170 in 1903.

The death-rate from phthisis was 1·2 per 1,000 of population.

During the year 1904, throughout England and Wales, taken as a whole, the birth-rate was 27·9, which is the lowest rate on record, the general death-rate 16·2, and the death-rate from the principal epidemic diseases 1·94 per 1,000 of population. The rate of mortality amongst infants under one year of age per 1,000 registered births was 146, and the death-rates from the seven principal epidemic diseases were as below :—

Small-pox	...	...	...	0·01
Measles	...	...	...	0·36
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	0·11
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0·17
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	0·34
Fevers	...	...	...	0·09
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	0·86

It will be seen from the above that the general death-rate, the epidemic disease death-rate, and the rate of infant mortality were respectively 4·1, 1·34, and 38 below those of the county generally.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES SCOTT TEW.

Table 1.—For whole District.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Deaths under One Year of Age.		Deaths at all Ages.		Deaths of Non-Residents registered in Public Institu- tions in the District.		Deaths of Residents regis- tered in Public Institu- tions beyond the District.		Deaths at all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered	Number.	Rate*	Deaths in Public Institu- tions in the District.	Deaths of Non-Residents registered in Public Insti- tutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents regis- tered in Public Institu- tions beyond the District.	Number.	Rate*	Deaths at all Ages. Nett.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1902	144,394	3,123	21.6	318	101	1,930	13.3	394	189	10	1,799	12.4	
1903	139,261	3,366	24.1	359	106	1,820	13.0	361	124	15	1,711	12.2	
Averages for years 1902 and 1903.	141,827	3,244	22.8	338	103	1,875	13.1	377	156	12	1,755	12.3	
1904	140,286	3,219	22.9	350	108	1,842	13.1	386	147	13	1,708	12.1	

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated Population.

NOTE.—The deaths included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term “Non-residents” is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term “Residents” is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The “Public institutions” to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses, and lunatic asylums.

Table 2.

Names of Localities. Year 1904.		West Kent combined	Bromley Rural.	Cranbrook Rural.	Maidstone Rural.	Sevenoaks Rural.	Tenterden Rural.	Tonbridge Rural.	Chislehurst Urban.	Sevenoaks Urban.	Southborough Urban	Tenterden Urban.	Tonbridge Urban.	Foots Cray Urban.
Population estimated to middle of each year	<i>a.</i>	140286	19504	12698	15462	22855	5228	17172	7736	8274	7578	3185	13725	6869
Births Registered.	<i>b.</i>	3219	483	277	367	493	129	423	181	148	167	76	331	144
Deaths at all Ages.	<i>c.</i>	1708	246	151	205	262	77	198	72	116	97	46	177	61
Deaths under 1 Year	<i>d.</i>	350	64	25	41	48	18	43	15	21	12	6	43	14

Table 4.—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year, 1904.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in whole District at subjoined Ages.							Deaths in the District Council areas (at all Ages).										Deaths in Public Institutions.		
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards	Bromley Rural.	Crabrook Rural.	Maidstone Rural.	Sevenoaks Rural.	Tenterden Rural.	Tonbridge Rural.	Chislehurst Urban.	Sevenoaks Urban.	Southboro' Urban.	Tenterden Urban.		Tonbridge Urban.	Foots Cray Urban.
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	4	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Scarlet Fever	3	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Epidemic Influenza	23	3	4	—	1	2	13	3	5	—	7	2	1	—	4	—	—	—	1	—
Whooping-cough.....	16	9	6	1	—	—	—	9	1	1	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria, Membranous Croup ...	18	1	8	6	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	4	1	—	3	—	2	1	—	3
Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	6	—	—	—	4	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1
Asiatic Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhœa, Dysentery.....	43	37	2	1	—	2	1	10	2	7	5	2	5	2	2	2	—	—	4	2
Epidemic or Zymotic Enteritis	19	16	3	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	1	—	3	1	1	—	—	—	3	2
Enteritis	19	10	6	—	2	1	—	7	2	—	—	2	—	4	3	—	—	—	1	—
Other continued Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas.....	4	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Fever	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other septic diseases	6	1	—	—	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Intermittent Fever and Malarial Cachexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Meninges.....	20	10	6	3	—	1	—	4	1	3	3	—	4	2	—	1	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis of Lungs	116	1	3	7	24	77	4	14	7	20	18	1	13	5	10	6	4	15	3	37

Other forms of Tuberculosis	45	15	8	8	1	11	2	2	2	4	9	2	3	—	5	8	1	7	2	5
Alcoholism	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3
Cancer	124	—	1	—	—	67	56	21	12	6	27	—	11	4	3	12	2	17	5	28
Premature Birth.....	53	53	—	—	—	—	—	7	5	5	3	—	15	1	2	1	—	7	3	—
Developmental Diseases	108	96	7	1	—	1	3	14	9	19	15	4	12	6	7	2	1	16	3	8
Old Age.....	278	—	—	—	—	1	277	32	26	31	40	15	42	10	21	14	12	25	10	124
Meningitis	14	4	3	3	2	2	—	2	2	1	2	—	1	—	1	1	1	2	1	—
Inflammation & Softening of Brain	10	1	—	—	—	3	6	2	—	2	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	10
Organic Diseases of Heart	156	1	—	2	7	75	71	27	16	21	21	8	15	7	9	9	4	17	2	22
Acute Bronchitis.....	57	22	1	1	—	10	23	7	2	6	13	5	3	—	4	5	5	7	—	4
Chronic Bronchitis	49	1	—	—	—	4	44	6	5	6	9	3	1	3	2	7	1	3	3	9
Lobar (Croupous) Pneumonia	21	9	5	—	—	3	4	7	3	3	1	—	2	—	1	2	1	1	—	5
Lobular (Broncho-) Pneumonia	73	16	11	1	1	23	21	6	6	12	9	3	12	4	2	4	2	8	5	12
Diseases of Stomach	4	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Obstructions of Intestines	21	4	—	—	—	6	11	3	3	2	2	1	3	1	3	—	1	2	—	4
Cirrhosis of Liver	16	—	—	—	—	11	5	2	2	2	1	—	3	1	1	1	—	1	2	3
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	56	2	—	—	—	29	25	8	6	4	13	1	9	1	5	—	3	4	2	11
Tumours and other Affections of Female Genital Organs.....	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Accidents & Diseases of Parturition	21	7	—	—	3	11	—	4	3	1	3	2	3	—	3	1	1	—	—	2
Deaths by Accident or Negligence...	46	2	5	8	7	18	6	7	4	6	7	—	10	2	3	1	1	3	2	9
Deaths by Suicide	20	—	—	—	1	17	2	4	4	3	1	2	2	—	—	1	—	3	—	—
Deaths from Ill-defined Causes	9	3	—	—	1	5	—	—	1	3	2	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
All other Causes.....	223	23	5	9	2	96	88	23	18	32	35	12	20	16	18	16	3	18	12	54
All causes	1708	350	88	54	61	488	667	246	151	205	262	77	198	72	116	97	46	177	61	368

